

UDAF To Again Distribute Powdered Milk To Help Utah Livestock Producers In Drought Hit Areas

7 million pounds available

Utah Commissioner of Agriculture and Food, Cary G. Peterson announced that qualifying livestock owners in Utah will again be eligible for surplus USDA non-fat dry milk (NDM) in areas hardest hit by continuing drought.

"I am happy to announce that the USDA is again extending a valuable feed supplement program to ranchers suffering through another year of drought," said Commissioner Peterson. "Many Utah ranchers are taking advantage of this program that offers needed nutrition for their herds," he added.

Owners of the following livestock, located in the 10 qualifying counties, are eligible for the program: foundation herds of beef cattle, sheep, goats and bison. Owners of such herds are encouraged to contact their local USDA Farm Service Agency office to confirm their eligibility.

Ten of Utah's 29 counties qualify for the program. Those counties are: Beaver, Box Elder, Cache, Garfield, Iron, Kane, Rich, San Juan, Summit, and Washington.

An estimated seven million pounds of non-fat dry milk will be distributed through area feed dealers who will be contacted to determine whether they wish to participate in the program. The Utah Department of Agriculture and Food (UDAF) will also contact qualifying livestock owners in the 10 eligible counties to alert them to the program.

The Non-fat Dry Milk made available will be based upon 75 percent of the size of foundation livestock herds of beef cattle, sheep, goats, and bison in such counties. A 30-day supply of NDM will be calculated at the rate of two pounds of NDM per eligible bovine and bison per day, and one-half pound of NDM per sheep and goat per day.

The U.S. Drought Monitor is used to determine which counties are eligible to ensure the initiative is targeted to producers in greatest need. To be eligible, counties must have been designated either "extreme" or

"exceptional" drought areas during the past six months.

The USDA will provide almost 136 million pounds of non-fat dry milk to nine states and 95 counties to supplement the feed for 2.3 million head of beef cattle, sheep, goats and bison.

The non-fat dry milk initiative is in addition to emergency grazing that the USDA announced June 24 on Conservation Reserve Program Acres to provide relief for farmers and ranchers in qualifying areas.

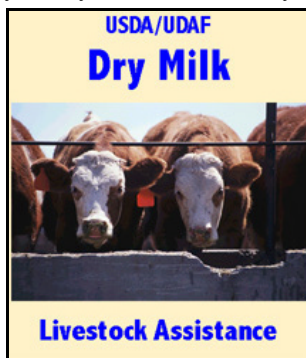
Approximately 95 counties in nine states currently meet the initial eligibility criteria for the NDM program. The states with eligible counties are: Arizona, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah and Wyoming.

The current program specifies that:

- USDA will denature the NDM before shipment to the feed dealers to prevent human consumption.
- The NDM will be sold to feed dealers under restricted use provisions for \$275.00 per 41,500 pounds (truckload).
- Feed dealers shall permit inspection of inventory and related records to ensure compliance with 2004 NDM Livestock Feed Assistance Initiative provisions.
- The NDM shall not be used as feed for dairy cattle, veal, poultry, swine, or fish.
- The exportation of the NDM outside of the U.S. is prohibited.

To help producers find hay supplies, USDA has a website for producers to list information concerning the need for hay or the availability of hay for sale. The "Hay Net" website is located at www.fsa.usda.gov/haynet/. Information about other programs available can be located at disaster.usda.gov/.

For further information about the program visit: <http://disaster.fsa.usda.gov/2004ndm.htm> or www.ag.utah.gov/



UTAH AG NEWS

August

2004

Agriculture: Your Food Resource

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Governor
Commissioner of Agriculture and Food
Deputy Commissioner
Public Information Officer

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Cary G. Peterson
Kyle R. Stephens
Larry Lewis

Department of Agriculture and Food Seeks Drought Disaster Declaration To Aid Utah Farmers And Ranchers

A projected \$133 million impact on Utah's agricultural economy brought on by a sixth year of drought has prompted Agriculture and Food Commissioner Cary G. Peterson to seek disaster assistance relief for Utah farmers and ranchers.

In a letter to Governor Olene Walker, Commissioner Peterson has begun the process to seek state and federal agricultural aid.

Drought help



"I have received documentation from our County Emergency Drought Boards, and must report to you that extreme drought conditions exist in 21 of the State of Utah's 29 counties," the Commissioner writes. "The USDA's State Emergency Board is requesting, and I am in support of, a Disaster Designation for the 21 counties in the State of Utah."

The remaining eight counties also suffer from drought conditions, and are worthy of inclusion in a disaster declaration.

The vast majority of Utah's farmers and ranchers are suffering a minimum crop loss of at least 30 percent due to drought and insect infestation. Many of these counties have the added misfortune of also suffering from high winds, hail, flash floods, and fire. The estimated financial loss of crop and forage value to Utah farmers and ranchers is \$133 million. This represents about 30 percent of the historic value of these commodities.

Utah is one of nine states that has qualified for special livestock feed assistance in the form of the Non-fat Dry Milk Program offered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

"I therefore request that you declare a Statewide Declaration of Agricultural Disaster, and that your office seek assistance from the United States Secretary of Agriculture so that the appropriate funding may be made available to each impacted producer in each county," the Commissioner wrote to Governor Walker.

Utah—FSA Damage Assessment Report	
County	Total loss
Beaver	\$2,087,000
Box Elder	\$20,151,000
Cache	\$26,128,000
Carbon	\$1,240,000
Emery	\$3,607,000
Garfield	\$3,891,000
Grand	\$523,000
Iron	\$5,202,000
Juab	\$3,224,000
Kane	\$1,765,000
Millard	\$18,188,000
Piute	\$2,632,000
Rich	\$5,193,000
Salt Lake	\$524,000
San Juan	\$1,061,000
Sanpete	\$11,497,000
Sevier	\$7,282,000
Summit	\$7,725,000
Tooele	\$3,999,000
Washington	\$2,385,000
Wayne	\$3,877,000
Total	\$133,000,000

Did you know... that according to the 2002 Census of Agriculture, Sanpete County had more sheep and lambs than any other county in Utah? Only 11 other counties in the United States had more sheep and lambs than Sanpete.

Did you know... that Box Elder County ranked first in the state for acres of safflower grown, and 6th among all counties in the nation?

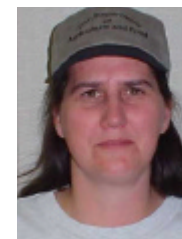
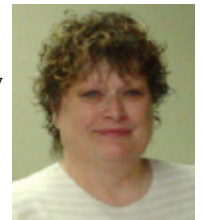
New Employees

Pavel Milyavskiy is Administrative Service's new Program Analyst. Previously, Pavel was a software testing engineer for Moog Inc. Aircraft Group.



Kent Page is Administrative Service's new Emergency Preparedness Planner. Kent comes to the department from the Utah Division of Emergency Services and Homeland Security where he was an Emergency Planner.

Kathy Staker is Marketing and Conservation's new Loan Accounting Tech. Kathy was previously employed as a Licensed Mortgage Loan Officer with Aspen Home Loan.



Kat Turner is Plant Industry's new Grain Tech. Kat was previously employed by Clearfield City in the Parks Department.

Cory Mounteer is Admin. Service's temporary financial analyst.

Cory is studying for a master's degree in accounting at the U. of U.

